

**ABSTRACT**

5 An apparatus comprising a frame; a member movable relative to said frame; a damping  
device interconnected between the frame and the movable member; a controller for  
activating said damper to generate a damping condition at a predetermined member  
operating condition; and system for activating the damping device at a predetermined  
operating condition of the moving member during a loss of power to the apparatus. The  
10 damping device may comprise a field controllable damper that includes a volume of  
field controllable fluid, which may in turn comprise magnetorheological fluid for  
example. The rheology of the field controllable fluid is effected during the application  
of said field.